**IT Applications, Unit 4**

**Security and ethical considerations, Ch 8, p 294**

**Emerging technologies, Cloud Computing, p 305**

**The advantages and disadvantages of using cloud computing for storing, communicating and disposing of data and information.**

**What is cloud computing?**

1. Provide a definition for cloud computing?

It refers to the capacity for businesses to access convenient, up-to-data and on-demand web applications that can be maintained with minimal effort and financial outlay.

**Implications for businesses**

1. Distinguish between the following types of clouds:
   1. Public cloud

In public cloud computing, a business can access web services via a third party who shares resources and costs on a utility basis.

* 1. Community cloud

In community cloud computing, a group of organisations with similar needs seek to share the infrastructure.

* 1. Hybrid cloud

In hybrid computing, the business can access a number of cloud services in both public and community environments.

* 1. Private cloud

Private cloud computing take the advantage of all the strengths of a cloud environment, but is tailored to suit the private client.

**Advantages and disadvantages of using cloud computing**

From the text and also from the Articles:

“Guide to cloud computing”

“Steven Levy on the Perils of Cloud Computing”

**Complete the following:**

**Advantages**

1. List the advantages of this type of computing.

* Scalability
* Lower costs
* Instant software updates
* Improved document format compatibility.
* Unlimited storage capacity
* Increased data reliability
* Easier group collaboration
* Device independence
* Universal document access
* Latest version availability

**Disadvantages**

1. List the disadvantages of cloud computing.

* Requires a constant Internet connection
* Does not work well with low-speed connections
* Can be slow
* Software capabilities
* Availability & Service Levels
* Stored data might not be secure
* Stored data can be lost